

XI.—On Four new Species of the Genus Demodex, Owen.  
By STANLEY HIRST.

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*Demodex soricinus*, sp. n.

♀. A small species, the cephalothorax being fairly wide. Body a little more than three times the width of the cephalothorax. Abdomen pointed posteriorly and somewhat longer than cephalothorax + capitulum. Capitulum much wider than long. (The spines on the capitulum cannot be seen in the unique specimen, which lies ventral side uppermost.)

Total length 119  $\mu$ .

Host: *Sorex vulgaris*.

*Demodex apodemi*, sp. n.

♀. A very minute but fairly elongated species. Body about  $4\frac{1}{2}$  times as long as the greatest width of the cephalothorax. Abdomen a little less than twice the combined length of cephalothorax and capitulum. Capitulum (at base) wider than the length. Spines on dorsal surface of capitulum well developed, being pointed at the end as in *D. musculi* etc.

Total length 139  $\mu$ .

♂. Body from a little more than 4 up to about 5 times as long as width of cephalothorax. Capitulum when fully extended about as long as wide.

Male sexual aperture situated above interval between second and third pairs of legs. Penis fairly long and slender.

Host: *Apodemus sylvaticus*.

*Demodex longior*, sp. n.

♀. An elongated species of comparatively large size, resembling *D. canis* in many respects. Body sometimes nearly nine times as long as the width of the cephalothorax. Abdomen about  $2\frac{2}{3}$  times the combined length of cephalothorax and capitulum. Capitulum wider than long; the spines on its dorsal surface are short and somewhat curved.

Total length 280  $\mu$ .

♂. Abdomen about twice as long as the cephalothorax + capitulum. Body more than 6 times as long as the cephalo-

thoracic width. Male sexual orifice situated above the interval between the legs of the first and second pairs.

*Note.*—In one male specimen the tracheal tubes leading from the capitulum are quite distinct; each is at first double, but afterwards fuses to form a single wide lateral main trunk.

Host: *Apodemus sylvaticus*.

*Demodex nanus*, sp. n.

♀. A minute species very like that present in *Sorex vulgaris castaneus*. Length varying from less than 3 up to slightly more than  $3\frac{1}{2}$  times the width of the cephalothorax. Abdomen considerably shorter than combined length of cephalothorax and capitulum. Capitulum usually much wider than long; the spines on its surface apparently obsolete or absent.

Total length 87–102  $\mu$ .

Host: the black rat (*Rattus rattus*), a number of specimens collected by the author from a freshly killed rat.

*Note.*—Hahn has already described a species of *Demodex* (*D. ratti*) from a house-rat said to be *Mus rattus*. I have not been able to consult his original description, which is referred to by Gmeiner. The latter says the species is like that of the dog. From this one would infer that it was an elongated form of comparatively considerable size, similar to that found in *Rattus norvegicus*.

It is probable, indeed, that the rat from which Hahn's specimens were taken was really *Rattus norvegicus*, the brown or Norwegian rat (syn. *Mus decumanus*). It is, of course, possible that two species occur in *Rattus rattus*, as is certainly the case in *Apodemus sylvaticus*.

XII.—*New Species of Gerbillus and Taterillus.*

By OLDFIELD THOMAS.

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*Gerbillus allenbyi*, sp. n.

A small species, with short feet and tail; probably allied to *G. agag*.

General colour much more mouse-grey than the usual tone of gerbils, markedly greyer than *G. gerbillus*; head, shoulders, and most of the upper surface near "cinnamon-buff," but